



MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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MINUTES
of the
GOVERNING BOARD
of the
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

February 4, 2007

I. Call to Order.

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson Michael Berger, at 2:20 p.m. on February 4, 2007 at the Conejo Recreation and Park District, 403 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Hayduk, Jerome C. Daniel, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chairperson. Quorum present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer; Rorie Skei, Deputy Executive Officer; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Dan Tholund, Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Jeff Jones, Chief Financial Officer, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

III. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.

The following members of the public addressed the Board:

Arnold Newman, representing the International Society for Preservation of Tropical Rainforests, on item VIII.

Ruth M. Williams, representing the Oak Forest Canyon Task Force, on item VIII.

Kathi Flood, representing the Oak Forest Canyon Task Force, on item VIII.

Andrea Silberman, member of the public, on item VIII.

Virginia Hatfield Hawks, member of the public, on item VIII.

Irwin A. Silberman, member of the public, on item VIII.

Jerry Crump, member of the public, on item VIII.

Marilyn Langford, member of the public, on item VIII.

IV. Reports.

The Authority received verbal reports from the Chief Ranger, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief of Facilities and Maintenance, and the Chief Financial Officer.

The Chair announced that item VIII would be considered next.

VIII. Consideration of resolution amending Resolution No. 03-148 to authorize the use of additional funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 to acquire APN 2274-018-013 in Sherman Oaks without an access easement from Beverly Ridge Drive, Los Angeles. Negotiators: Joseph T. Edmiston and Veronique Fornaldes. Under consideration: price and terms. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to § 54956.8 of the Government Code.)

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 07-31 was adopted unanimously adopted as amended.

V. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution adopting the MRCA Warrant Disbursements for March 2007.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing signature authority delegation.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution assigning rights to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to apply to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Fourth Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess Funds to fund the Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project along the Los Angeles River located in the City of Long Beach.**

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 07-26, 07-27, and 07-28 were unanimously adopted.

VI. Consideration of resolution authorizing Los Angeles City Fire Department fuel break maintenance work on MRCA parkland within the City of Los Angeles west of the 405 Freeway, including West Mandeville Fire Road area.

Comments were made by the Chief Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Lange and Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 07-29 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing accepting delivery of fee title from the City of Agoura Hills, APNs 2055-001-900 and 2061-002-907 totaling approximately 146 acres, and granting conservation easements to the City of Agoura Hills on and over APNs 2055-025-900, 2061-001-902, 2061-033-905, 2050-022-900, 2061-002-906, 2061-002-907 and 2055-001-900.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 07-30 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing approval of the Interim Public Access Management Plan for Lechuza Beach as proposed by the California Coastal Conservancy.

This item was removed from the agenda.

X. Conference with legal counsel - anticipated litigation: number of cases: 1.

Pursuant to subdivision(c) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code, to initiate litigation to determine the extent of public rights in and to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority property interests at Lechuza Beach, Malibu. (This item may be heard in closed session.)

Comments were made by the Executive Officer and the Chief Executive Officer.

This item was heard in Closed Session.

XI. Statements, questions, and directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2 of the Government Code.

Comments were made by Messrs. Hayduk and Lange, and the Chief Executive Officer.

XII. Closed Session.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Government Code §§ 54956.8 and 54956.9. Confidential memoranda related to these items may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: 5. (1) *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; (2) *Robings v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (3) *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. City of Malibu, and related litigation*; (4) *City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; and (5) *Douglas v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*.

The Chair announced the Closed Session at 3:12 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 to discuss potential litigation: to initiate litigation to determine the extent of public rights in and to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority property interests at Lechuza Beach, Malibu, and *Robings v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 3:32 p.m. and announced that the Board received a verbal briefing on potential litigation: to initiate litigation to determine the extent of public rights in and to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority property interests at Lechuza Beach, Malibu, and *Robings v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*.

XIII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on May 2, 2007.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Acting Chair at 3:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP
Executive Officer

Michael Berger
Chair